

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 6(a), 6(b), 7 and 8(a)-(c) and replaces the original sheets with Figs. 6(a), 6(b), 7 and 8(a)-(c).

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 12 and 14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 11 are amended, claims 3 and 8-10 are withdrawn from consideration, and claims 5, 7, 13 and 15 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 11 can be found at least in original claims 5 and 13. Thus, no new matter is added.

I. Objections to the Drawings

The Office Action objects to Fig. 6(a), 6(b), 7 and 8(a)-(c) alleging that these figures should be labeled "Prior Art." Attached hereto Applicants respectfully submit replacement Figs. 6(a), 6(b), 7 and 8(a)-(c), amended to be labeled "Prior Art."

The Office Action also objects to the figures generally for failing to show feature 18 as well as the thickness of the parison claimed in claims 4 and 12. This objection is respectfully traversed.

The specification discloses as page 15, line 9, a circular bottom edge line 18. Fig. 2 clearly shows this feature which is labeled as element 18 therein. With regard to the feature of claims 4 and 12, the Office Action alleges that the figures fail to show "said bent corners have a step height or facial width at least nearly twice the wall thickness of the parison used for blow molding," as recited in claims 4 and 12. The specification discloses at page 17, lines 11-15 that bent corners 115 have a step height h which is nearly twice as much of the wall thickness of the parison P . Fig. 5 clearly shows this feature, in particular, Fig. 5(a) shows the shape of the parison P having a thickness equal to the distance between the two dashed lines. Fig. 5(b) further shows that the bent corner 115 has a height h . As clearly shown in Fig. 5, the height h of the bent corner is nearly twice the thickness of the parison P . Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the figures clearly show the above features.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdraw of the objections.

II. 35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 4 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and claims 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In particular, the Office Action rejects claims 4 and 12 alleging that the best mold has been concealed based on a lack of showing the relationship between the parison thickness and the step height. For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to the objections to the drawings, Applicants respectfully submit that the relationship between the parison thickness and the step height of the bent corners is clearly shown in the figures as well as in the specification.

The Office Action rejects claims 13 and 14 alleging that claim 13 is unclear as to what the "central" is measured with. By this Amendment, claim 13 is canceled and the amendment to claim 11 removes this language thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

III. 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,316,184 to Düring in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,399,424 to Sheptak. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Düring fails at least to disclose "the pinch-off line linearly extends across the diameter and passes the center of the underside surface of the bottom, the pinch-off line being angularly offset by an angle α from the direction of the mold parting lines," as recited in independent claim 1.

Although Fig. 3 and col. 4, lines 7-9 of Düring shows a seam angularly offset from a fold line where the bottle creases, Düring fails to disclose a pinch-off line angularly offset by an angle α with respect to the mold-parting lines. Specifically, the angled seam shown in Fig. 3 of Düring directly corresponds to the angle of the mold shown in Fig. 2. Thus, the seam of

Düring is not angularly offset from the mold-parting lines. As a result, Düring fails to disclose the above feature of independent claim 1.

Further, Fig. 4 and col. 4, lines 25-30 of Düring show a Z-shaped seam that is angularly offset from the fold line by an angle α at the mid-portion. However, the Z-shaped seam does not linearly extend across the diameter of the bottom surface of the bottom of the mold cavity. Further, the Z-shaped seam is also not angularly offset from the mold-parting lines. Specifically, Fig. 6 of Düring shows the Z-shaped mold that directly corresponds to the Z-shaped seam of Fig. 4.

Thus, Düring fails to disclose the above feature of independent claim 1. Sheptak fails to at least cure the above deficiencies of Düring with respect to independent claim 1.

For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, the applied references fail to disclose or render obvious "the pinch-off line linearly extends across the diameter and passes the center of the bottom surface of the bottom of the mold cavity, the pinch-off line being angularly offset by an angle α with the direction of the mold parting lines in the cross-sectional plan view of said split mold in its closed state," as recited in independent claim 11.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 11 are patentable over the applied combination of references. Claims 2, 4, 6, 12, and 14 are patentable at least for their various dependencies from the independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite. Claims 5, 7, 13 and 15 are hereby canceled, thus rendering the rejection of those claims moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

IV. Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims

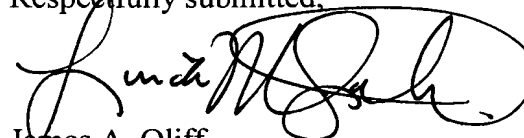
Claims 3 and 8-10 each depend from claim 1. Accordingly, upon the allowance of elected claim 1, rejoinder of claims 3 and 8-10 is respectfully requested. See MPEP §821.04.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Replacement Sheets (Figs. 6(a), 6(b), 7 and 8(a)-(c))
Petition for Extension of Time

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